

Serial No.: 10/023,576
Group Art Unit: 2663
Examiner: Richard Chang

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follow:

Please replace the text, beginning with the first full paragraph on page 13 and continuing through to the first paragraph on page 14, with the following marked-up text:

Figure 3 illustrates a message sequence diagram, shown generally at 54, representative of signaling generated to route a call originated at a TDM-network telephonic station for termination at a selected packet-network telephonic station. The originating station 22 forms the calling party, and the telephonic station 26 forms the called party.

When the call is originated, the caller of the originating station 22 enters dialing digits, such as 1-800-SIP-CALL, or other number, to initiate the call. The call is routed, indicated by the segment 56, to the media gateway 18. Upon delivery to the media gateway 18, the media gateway inquires of the application server 28 for instructions as to routing of the call. The inquiry is indicated by the segment 58.

Responsive thereto, the application server 28 inquires of a media server 32 of the identity of a port of the media server 32 available for the call. The segment 62 is representative of the inquiry, and the segment 64 is representative of the response to the request. In one implementation, the application server 28 includes a database 42 that identifies the media server from amongst media servers 32 to which the call can be routed. And, in another implementation, the media server 32 is programmed to support the call placement application, and the call placement application only, on specific incoming ports thereof. The media gateway 18, in such an implementation, need not communicate with the application server 28, but can, instead, route the call immediately to the media server 32. The identity of the port of the media server 32 is here provided, indicated by the segment 66, to the media gateway 18, and, responsive thereto, and an interactive communication session, indicated by the block 72, is created. During the interactive session, additional information is provided by the originating station 22 to the media server 32, and the database 42 is accessed, indicated by the segment 74, if appropriate, and data is retrieved therefrom, indicated by the segment 76. When the IP address of the called party is identified, the call is routed thereto, and a communication session, indicated by the block 82, is

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formed between the calling party and the called party formed of the telephonic stations 22 and 26, respectively. Thereby, a call is established therebetween.